

(b) Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 9-11 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend claims 1 and 2 as follows. A detailed listing of all the claims that are or were in the application follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A toner comprising:

(a) toner particles comprising a binder resin, a coloring agent, a releasing agent, and a sulfur-containing resin; and

(b) an inorganic fine powder mixed with the toner particles, wherein

i) the toner particles contain at least one element selected from the group consisting of magnesium, calcium, barium, zinc, aluminum, and phosphorous and satisfy the relationship:

$$4 \leq T/S \leq 30$$

wherein T is from 100 to 1,000 ppm and represents the total content of said element in ppm, and S represents the sulfur content in terms of ppm;

ii) the weight-average particle diameter (D4) of the toner is in the range of 3 to 10 μm ; and

iii) the average circularity of the toner is within the range of 0.950 to 0.995.

2. (Currently Amended) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the following relationship is satisfied:

$$(S-f) \geq (S-m)$$

wherein (S-f) represents the sulfur content in finer particles obtained by air-classifying the toner and (S-m) represents the sulfur content in the toner, the finer particles being air-classified particles satisfying the following relationship:

$$\{D4 \text{ of the toner} \times 0.7\} \leq D4 \text{ of the finer particles} \leq \{D4 \text{ of the toner} \times 0.8\}.$$

3. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the following relationship is satisfied:

$$0.0003 \leq E/A \leq 0.0050$$

wherein E represents the content of sulfur on the toner surfaces and A represents the content of carbon on the toner surfaces in terms of atomic percent measured by X-ray photoelectron spectrometry.

4. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the following relationship is satisfied:

$$0.0005 \leq F/A \leq 0.0100$$

wherein F represents the content of nitrogen on the toner surfaces and A represents the content of carbon on the toner surfaces in terms of atomic percent measured by X-ray photoelectron spectrometry.

5. (Original) The toner according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the following relationship is satisfied:

$$1 \leq F/E \leq 8$$

wherein F represents the content of nitrogen on the toner surfaces and E represents the content of sulfur on the toner surfaces in terms of atomic percent measured by X-ray photoelectron spectrometry.

6. (Original) The toner according to claim 5, wherein the following relationship is satisfied:

$$1 \leq F/E \leq 6.$$

7. (Original) The toner according to claim 5, wherein the following relationship is satisfied:

$$2 \leq F/E \leq 8.$$

8. (Original) The toner according to claim 5, wherein the following relationship is satisfied:

$$2 \leq F/E \leq 6.$$

9. - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the inorganic fine powder is one of silica, titanium oxide, alumina, and a complex oxide thereof.

13. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the inorganic fine powder is hydrophobized inorganic fine powder.

14. (Original) The toner according to claim 13, wherein the inorganic fine powder is hydrophobized with a silane compound and/or silicone oil.

15. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the inorganic fine powder comprises silica, and the percentage of free silica is within the range of 0.05% to 5.00% based on the number of the silica.

16. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the average circularity of the toner is in the range of 0.960 to 0.995.

17. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the mode circularity of the toner is at least 0.99.

18. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the weight-average particle diameter (D4) is in the range of 4 to 8 μm .

19. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner is nonmagnetic.

20. (Original) The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner particles are prepared in an aqueous medium.

21. (Original) The toner according to claim 20, wherein the toner particles are prepared by suspension polymerization.